

Cohasset Mariner

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As the Mariner goes to press Tuesday night, all news and advertising copy must be received by Monday at 5 p.m. Classified advertising must be received by Monday at noon. Readers are invited to submit personal items, accounts of social functions, meetings, weddings and engagements. Photographs (black and white glossy) are also welcome.

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Editorial

Harbor Shares

When it comes to harbors, Cohasset is being overly generous to the Town of Scituate.

Cohasset Harbor spreads out into Scituate waters (and thus into Plymouth County waters) which means Scituate residents have access to Cohasset Harbor facilities. As outlined by Selectman Arthur Clark last month, those facilities include a boat ramp, parking, dredging, use of water and electrical outlets, flood lighting, police protection and, of course, partial use of the Cohasset Harbormaster. The rub is that Scituate pays very little for these services and is, in fact, sponging off Cohasset taxpayers who now spend about \$25,000 for the harbor budget.

The existing inequities were reviewed at a Selectmen's meeting last month and at the time, a Scituate spokesman said something about wanting to be fair to Cohasset. Just how fair, he didn't say.

With the political waters relatively calm in both towns now, it seems an appropriate time to readdress the issue. Simply put, Scituate needs to pay more. Generosity has its limits, even for Cohasset.

Thanks For Your Kindness

To the Editor:

I want to thank so many of you for your kindness to me since I came to Nelson's Music Shop. I remember:

— all who welcomed me in my little studio in 1975

— the ones who offered prayers in 1977 when Irwin went into the hospital and gave blood for him.

— the children who would come in and show concern for us.

— the people who appreciated our little plants

— the kids who played with Jamie

— the teenagers who liked our Christmas tree

— the ladies who liked to get our paperbacks.



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— the people I knew, and some I didn't, who would stop in and tell me they were praying for Irwin and me.

— the residents of Cohasset who supported the store and me.

— the students who are willing to go to Scituate with me to continue lessons.

I am so grateful to you all for your concern and love.

Peace and love!

Carol Bates
Scituate

Sincere Gratitude For Donations

To the Editor:

The Cohasset Recreation Department would like to extend its sincere gratitude to the Cohasset Jaycees, Fleming Hardware Company, Nelson's Record Shop, Cohasset Hardware, and the Red Lion Inn for their generous donations towards the 1979 Easter Egg Hunt for children between the ages of three and 12.

While weather conditions were less than ideal on Saturday, over 250 youngsters

participated in the annual event co-sponsored by the Cohasset Jaycees and Recreation Department.

There are presently about 300 individuals registered in 16 spring Recreation Department programs which are designed for all aged residents. Many of these programs will continue, after new registrations during May and June, into the summer.

John M. Worley, Director
Cohasset Recreation
Department

Voters Must Fish Or Cut Bait

By Gilbert Tower

To do something or not to do something. That is the immediate question confronting Cohasset voters. A Cohasset Mariner would say "Either fresh fish or cut bait." The town has delayed to the limit. For better or for worse it is time for the town to do something.

Imagine a type-written page of discussions pro and con with every possible objection included. At the end it will conclude with this plan. Starting at Rte. 3A lay a pipe down Beechwood St. to the railroad bed, then turn left along the railroad to Spring St. and into Jacobs Meadow or Whale Meadow. Drain the Veterans area from which Peppermint Brook now pollutes the Lily Pond water supply. If some houses on Lincoln hillside cannot be made to perk the cheapest way may be for the town to buy them. Otherwise drain them to an additional treatment facility in Jacobs Meadow or Whale Meadow.

The capacity of the additional plant should be moderate, that is not large enough for future extension to handle the remaining town area.

So far as possible every house should dispose of its own human waste by means of its septic tank. Beginning with new houses, the plumbing systems should limit septic tank connections strictly to water closet waste that can be effectively eaten up by bacteria in the septic tank. Clothes washing machines, kitchen sinks, bathtubs and shower baths and lavatories can be conducted to dry wells or

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elsewhere. Interior piping will be under jurisdiction of the plumbing inspector while exterior arrangements will come under the board of health.

For the treatment plant effluent, lay a pipe to Whale Meadow. Cut out the silly talk about Sutton Rock. The tides flowing in and out of Cohasset Harbor twice a day provide an ideal, natural system for flushing out slight effluent pollution.

'Now let's go back to the main question "To do or not to do?" The writer can see no way by which the federal government or state can compel the town to do anything it does not want to do. By contributing 85 1/2 of the cost they can exercise a very strong influence. It would probably be a mistake for Cohasset not to take advantage of the financial help offered, but we should act soon, otherwise the offer will be withdrawn and the money will go to some other town. An adopted plan which might be, we will say 25% not perfect, would still be 75% satisfactory. In other words, probably no adopted plan would be entirely a mistake. That thought might justify going ahead confidently with something in spite of some objection.

After having completed an extension of our present public sewage disposal system, what if coli-bacteria are counted in the water of Cohasset

Harbor? Then a tertiary system might have to be considered to make the effluent as pure as drinking water. That system is understood to involve leaching beds of charcoal. Another possible action might be to refuse to grant permits for more residential construction. More town population might aggravate the sewage problem.

Having thought the matter through to some kind of conclusion, it seems to the writer that Cohasset will make no mistake in going ahead and vote to install more sewer pipes and treatment plant.

Let's burn up our human waste so far as possible with the help of bacteria in individual septic tanks so far as possible and to supplement those by the town treatment plant which is like a public septic tank except that its method of operation is different.

The writer has just received a copy of Title V and plans to study it with the hope of making individual septic tanks more efficient instead of increasing public expense. It is hoped that this discussion may help somewhat in simplifying the sewage problem. It is also hoped that the engineers and commissioners will make a written report which voters will be able to read instead of having to make decisions on the basis of verbal discussion which only a few voters can hear.

Voters should be given time to think and to make up their minds.

Around Town Hall

CLARK CHAIRMAN

Selectman Arthur Clark was reelected chairman of the board at an organizational meeting last Wednesday night. Clark has been chairman for all but his first two years on the board. He has served 10 years.

LAUGELLE WELCOMED

Newly-elected Selectman Rocco Laugelle served on the board for the first time last week. He had been a water commissioner nine years. Selectmen Arthur Clark and Henry Ainslie noted they, too, had been water commissioners in the past.

POND STUDIES

Selectmen approved the application for a \$10,000 grant from the state Office of Coastal Zone Management for studies of Straits Pond. If the grant is approved, Cohasset and Hull would be responsible for 20 per cent of the cost or \$2000.

Avshalom Beni, disaster relief coordinator of Hull, reported the grant would be used as additional help in ridding the pond of pollution and insect problems. A recently voted appropriation at town meeting for Cohasset's share of \$5000 to be used in conjunction with an equal amount from Hull will go toward preliminary studies of the



pond.

POLICE APPOINTMENT

Selectmen received authorization from Civil Service for the employment of Frederick Grassie of Beechwood Street as a police officer at \$12,762 a year. Grassie has been a permanent intermittent officer and has been trained by Cohasset at a police academy. He will fill a vacancy caused by the dismissal of an officer.

MAPC PLAN

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council had submitted a questionnaire to Selectmen for information on the town's housing assistance needs and goals. The questionnaire will be sent to the Housing Authority and Planning Board for comments.

CARRY GUNS?

During the review of committee appointments, Selectmen raised the question of

whether special police officers should carry guns. Police Chief Randolph Feola will be asked to more information on private and special police officers and whether those positions should be continued.

CS REORGANIZATION

Selectmen have agreed to answer a questionnaire from the Massachusetts League of Cities and Towns requesting ideas on Civil Service reform. A letter from the league said the legislature is expected to create a special commission soon to study the question of Civil Service reform and report back by the end of this year with recommended changes.

The commission, the letter continued, will probably be composed of public employee union members as well as municipal and state management people and state legislators.

Hall Exhibit In Hingham

Elizabeth Hall of Cohasset will have an exhibit of decoupage in the Hingham Library's Clemens Gallery May 3-25. Mrs. Hall is a member of the New England Decoupage Society.